IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1.　　(CANCELLED)

2.　　(CANCELLED)

3.　　(Previously Presented) An apparatus for setting an environment of a client in a client/server system, said apparatus comprising:

a unit recognizing that replacement of a hard disk of a client is performed;

a unit that installs data, which is backed up from said hard disk provided in said client before the replacement thereof and subsequently and preliminarily stored in a server, in response to the replacement thereof onto a hard disk provided in said client after the replacement thereof, said data being installed on said client by an agent residing on said client according to a reading of an execution script residing on the server wherein said server includes a manager issuing a client switching instruction instructing said client to boot locally or remotely, wherein:

a plurality of kinds of data are prepared in said server as the backed-up data, one of the plurality of kinds of data is selected, the selected one kind of data comprising data backed up in the environment just before the replacement, said unit periodically acquiring the selected one kind of data from said client before said replacement;

the selected one kind of data is then installed in said client; and

said server has a unit keeping a log of processing performed on said client.

4.　　(Previously Presented) An apparatus for setting an environment of a client in a client/server system, said apparatus comprising:

a unit recognizing that replacement of a hard disk of a client is performed;

a unit that installs data, which is backed up from said hard disk provided in said client before the replacement thereof and subsequently and preliminarily stored in a server, in response to the replacement thereof onto a hard disk provided in said client after the

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replacement thereof, said data being installed on said client by an agent residing on said client according to a reading of an execution script residing on the server, wherein said server includes a manager issuing a client switching instruction instructing said client to boot locally or remotely wherein:

a plurality of kinds of data are prepared in said server as the backed-up data,

one of the plurality of kinds of data is selected,

the selected one kind of data is data backed up in the environment at the time of initially setting said client, and

the selected one kind of data is then installed in said client; and

an application program included in the data, which is backed up in the environment at the time of initially setting said client, is updated to the latest version thereof until the replacement of said hard disk.

5.   (CANCELLED)

6.   (CANCELLED)

7.   (CANCELLED)

8.   (Previously Presented) A method for setting the environment of a client in a client/server system, said method comprising:

recognizing that replacement of a hard disk of a client is performed; installing data, which is backed up from said hard disk provided in said client before the replacement thereof and subsequently and preliminarily stored in a server, in response to the replacement thereof onto a hard disk provided in said client after the replacement thereof, said data being installed on said client by an agent residing on said client according to a reading of an execution script residing on the server, wherein said server includes a manager issuing a client switching instruction instructing said client to boot locally or remotely wherein:

a plurality of kinds of data are prepared in said server as the backed-up data,

one of the plurality of kinds of data is selected,

the selected one kind of data is data backed up in the environment just before the replacement, the selected one kind of data being periodically acquired from said client before said replacement and

the selected one kind of data is then installed in said client; and

said server has a unit keeping a log of processing performed on said client.

9.   (Previously Presented) A computer readable program recording medium recording a program causing a computer to set the environment of a client in a client/server system, by:

recognizing that replacement of a hard disk of a client is performed;

installing data, which is backed up from said hard disk provided in said client before the replacement thereof and subsequently and preliminarily stored in a server, in response to the replacement thereof onto a hard disk provided in said client after the replacement thereof, said data being installed on said client by an agent residing on said client according to a reading of an execution script residing on the server, wherein said server includes a manager issuing a client switching instruction instructing said client to boot locally or remotely wherein:

a plurality of kinds of data are prepared in said server as the backed-up data,

one of the plurality of kinds of data is selected,

the selected one kind of data is data backed up in the environment at the time of initially setting said client,

the selected one kind of data is then installed in said client,

an application program included in the data, which is backed up in the environment at the time of initially setting said client, is updated to the latest version thereof until the replacement of said hard disk.

10.   (CANCELLED)

11.   (ORIGINAL) The apparatus for setting the environment of a client in a client/server system according to claim 3, wherein said server has a unit keeping a log of processing performed on said client.

12.   (ORIGINAL) The apparatus for setting the environment of a client in a client/server system according to claim 4, wherein said server has a unit keeping a log of processing performed on said client.

13.   (CANCELLED)

14.   (CANCELLED)

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15.   (ORIGINAL) The apparatus for setting the environment of a client in a client/server system according to claim 3, wherein said client periodically sends document data to said server.

16.   (ORIGINAL) The apparatus for setting the environment of a client in a client/server system according to claim 4, wherein said client periodically sends document data to said server.

17.   (CANCELLED)

18.   (CANCELLED)

19.   (Previously Presented) A method for automatically setting an environment of a client computer in a client/server system, comprising:

preparing, at said server, a plurality of kinds of data as backup data;

selecting one of the plurality of kinds of data to be installed in the client; and

instructing an agent residing on the client to install data on the client according to a reading of a script residing on the server wherein said server includes a manager issuing a client switching instruction instructing said client to boot locally or remotely.

20.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus for setting an environment of a client in a client/server system, said apparatus comprising:

a first unit recognizing that replacement of a hard disk of a client is performed;

a second unit that installs data, which is backed up from said hard disk provided in said client before the replacement thereof and subsequently and preliminarily stored in a server, in response to the replacement thereof onto a hard disk provided in said client after the replacement thereof, said data being installed on said client by an agent residing on said client according to a reading of an execution script residing on the server, wherein said server includes a manager issuing a client switching instruction instructing said client to boot locally or remotely,

said server preparing a plurality of kinds of data as the backed-up data, and said selecting one of the plurality of kinds of data to be installed in said client.

21.   (Previously Presented) A method for setting an environment of a client in a client/server system, comprising:

issuing a client switching instruction from said server wherein said client switching instruction instructs said client to boot from said server;

selecting one of a plurality of kinds of data prepared as backup data in said server;

downloading the backup data to said client from said server; and

issuing a client switching instruction from said server wherein said client switching instruction instructs said client to boot from said client.

22. (NEW) A server for setting an environment of a client through a network, comprising:

a storing unit storing a control file and an agent, said control file including a serial number of a hard disk of said client, backed-up data of said hard disk of said client, and control information for performing processes to install said backed-up data to said client, and said agent performing installation processes to said client according to the control information included in the control file;

a recognition unit recognizing whether or not replacement of the hard disk of the client was performed by comparing the serial number of said hard disk of said client stored in the storing unit with a serial number of a hard disk of said client received from said client;

a transmission unit transmitting said agent to said client when the recognition unit recognizes that replacement of the hard disk of the client was performed;

an installation unit making said agent, which was sent to said client, to perform installation of the backed-up data of said hard disk of said client;

a reception unit receiving a completion information of the installation of the backed-up data from said agent to the client; and

a switching unit rebooting said client so that a boot of said client is changed from a boot through the network to a boot by said hard disk of said client.

23. (NEW) The server according to claim 22, wherein a plurality of kinds of data are prepared in said server as the backed- up data, wherein said server comprises a unit selecting the kinds of data to install the selected one to said client.

24. (NEW) The server according to claim 23, further comprising a unit selecting the kinds of the backed-up data based on selecting operations of a management apparatus connected to said server through the network.

25. (NEW) The server according to claim 23, wherein one kind of the backed-up data is backed-up data which was just previously installed from said server to said client.

26. (NEW) The server according to claim 23, wherein one kind of the backed-up data is backed-up data including operating systems and programs which were installed at the time of initially setting said client.

27. (NEW) The server according to claim 23, wherein one kind of the backed-up data includes programs which were installed at the time of initially setting said client, and said programs are ones which were updated before the replacement of said hard disk of said client.

28. (NEW) A method for setting an environment of a client through a network by a server, comprising:

storing a control file and an agent in a storing unit, said control file including a serial number of a hard disk of said client, backed-up data of said hard disk of said client, and control information for performing processes to install said backed-up data to said client, and said agent performing installation processes to said client according to the control information included in the control file;

recognizing whether or not replacement of the hard disk of the client was performed by comparing the serial number of said hard disk of said client stored in the storing unit with a serial number of a hard disk of said client received from said client;

transmitting said agent to said client when the recognition unit recognizes that replacement of the hard disk of the client was performed;

making said agent, which was sent to said client, to perform installation of the backed-up data of said hard disk of said client;

receiving a completion information of the installation of the backed-up data from said agent to the client; and

rebooting said client so that a boot of said client is changed from a boot through the network to a boot by said hard disk of said client.

29. (NEW) The method according to claim 28, wherein a plurality of kinds of data are prepared in said server as the backed- up data, wherein said method comprises selecting the kinds of data to install the selected one to said client.

30. (NEW) The method according to claim 29, further comprising selecting the kinds of the backed-up data based on selecting operations of a management apparatus connected to said server through the network.

31. (NEW) The method according to claim 29, wherein one kind of the backed-up data is backed-up data which was just previously installed from said server to said client.

32. (NEW) The method according to claim 29, wherein one kind of the backed-up data is backed-up data including operating systems and programs which were installed at the time of initially setting said client.

33. (NEW) The method according to claim 29, wherein one kind of the backed-up data includes programs which were installed at the time of initially setting said client, and said programs are ones which were updated before the replacement of said hard disk of said client.

34. (NEW) A computer readable program recording medium recording a program causing a computer of a server to set an environment of a client through a network, by:

storing a control file and an agent in a storing unit, said control file including a serial number of a hard disk of said client, backed-up data of said hard disk of said client, and control information for performing processes to install said backed-up data to said client, and said agent performing installation processes to said client according to the control information included in the control file;

recognizing whether or not replacement of the hard disk of the client was performed by comparing the serial number of said hard disk of said client stored in the storing unit with a serial number of a hard disk of said client received from said client;

transmitting said agent to said client when the recognition unit recognizes that replacement of the hard disk of the client was performed;

making said agent, which was sent to said client, to perform installation of the backed-up data of said hard disk of said client;

receiving a completion information of the installation of the backed-up data from said agent to the client; and

rebooting said client so that a boot of said client is changed from a boot through the network to a boot by said hard disk of said client.

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35. (NEW) The medium according to claim 34, wherein a plurality of kinds of data are prepared in said server as the backed- up data, wherein said method comprises selecting the kinds of data to install the selected one to said client.

36. (NEW) The medium according to claim 35, further comprising selecting the kinds of the backed-up data based on selecting operations of a management apparatus connected to said server through the network.

37. (NEW) The medium according to claim 35, wherein one kind of the backed-up data is backed-up data which was just previously installed from said server to said client.

38. (NEW) The medium according to claim 35, wherein one kind of the backed-up data is backed-up data including operating systems and programs which were installed at the time of initially setting said client.

39. (NEW) The medium according to claim 35, wherein one kind of the backed-up data includes programs which were installed at the time of initially setting said client, and said programs are ones which were updated before the replacement of said hard disk of said client.